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(b) whether the Government have approved of this procedure and if so, on what grounds; and

(c) whether the Government will call for a report and take steps to prevent this practice?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.
(b) Does not arise.
(c) The Government are not convinced of the necessity for any action in the manner suggested.

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo:—"May I know whether it is a fact that in a recent case a member of the Bar, who is not even on the panel sent by the Public Prosecutor, was appointed by the Manager himself without consulting the Public Prosecutor?" 11-45 a.m.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It is not a fact."

Alleged delay in issuing copies of judgments in South Kanara.

*1234 Q.—Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that printed copies of judgments for appeal in civil suits in South Kanara are generally given several months after their delivery and that thereby parties are put to very great inconvenience;

(b) whether the Government are aware that there are several printing presses in South Kanara and that this delay is caused by giving the monopoly of this printing to only one of these presses; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take the necessary steps to prevent this delay?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information.

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB:—"It is stated that the Government have no information. May I ask if the Government will be pleased to call for the information and place it on the table of the House."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government will send this question and answer through the High Court to the District Judge."

Criminal Justice.

Alleged issue of orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, on a Congressman at Vellore.

*1235-A Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the order issued under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, by the Magistrate of Vellore, gagging a speaker in a meeting held under the auspices of the Congress Committee;

(b) whether the Government have made an enquiry about the necessity for issuing such an order;

(c) whether the Government have expressed their approval or disapproval of such order; and

(d) whether the Government intend to issue instructions to all Magistrates not to abuse section 144?

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A.—(*a*) An order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, was served on a speaker in Vellore on 5th January 1929. Presumably the hon. Member has this in mind.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The Government have made no comment on it.

(*d*) No such instructions are called for.

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"May I know if the Government have called for information under what circumstances the order under section 144 was issued at Vellore ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"The Government have called for the information and the answer is based on that information."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"From whom did that information come ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"From the District Magistrate."

Alleged issue of orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, on a Congressman at Vellore.

* 1235-B *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that while Mr. E. V. Ramaswami Nayakar and Mr. Surendranath Arya were allowed to hold a conference and preach against society and religion at Vellore early this month, the police and the magistracy prevented meetings being held under Congress auspices by serving orders under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code ;

(*b*) whether it is the policy of the Government to put down Congress activities and encourage anti-Congress activities ; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to take any steps to indicate their position in the matter ?

A.—(*a*) The gentlemen mentioned addressed meetings organized by the North Arcot Non-Brahman Youth League on the 4th and 5th January; the Government have no information that they preached against society and religion. Counter-meetings were also organized by the Congress party on the same days. At the meeting of the Non-Brahman Youth League party on the 4th there was stone-throwing by the Congress party, and the situation becoming more strained during the 5th, some disturbance to the public peace was apprehended by the local authorities. Accordingly one order under section 144 was served on one Congress speaker as the circumstances rendered this action necessary.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The Government see no reason to do so.